

DISCLAIMER

This electronic version of an SCC order is for informational purposes only and is not an official document of the Commission. An official copy may be obtained from the [Clerk of the Commission, Document Control Center](#).

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, OCTOBER 11, 2000

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, ex rel.

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

CASE NO. PUE000550

Ex Parte, In re: Appalachian Power Company
d/b/a/ American Electric Power Company, Inc.;
Regional Transmission Entities

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, ex rel.

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

CASE NO. PUE000551

Ex Parte, In re: Virginia Electric and Power Company;
Regional Transmission Entities

ORDER CONCERNING ELECTRONIC FILING

By order dated July 19, 2000, the Commission promulgated regulations governing incumbent electric utilities' transfer of the ownership or control of transmission assets to regional transmission entities ("RTEs"). These regulations ("RTE regulations") were promulgated pursuant to §§ 56-577 and 56-579 of the Virginia Electric Utility Restructuring Act. The regulations include 20 VAC 5-320-100 and 20 VAC 5-320-110 which establish the contents of the filing each incumbent electric utility is required to make concerning the RTE it has joined or proposes to join. 20 VAC 5-320-120 requires Virginia's incumbent electric utilities to file the applications required by the aforesaid regulations not later than October 16, 2000.

The Staff of the State Corporation Commission ("Staff") has advised the Commission that Appalachian Power Company d/b/a/ American Electric Power Company, Inc. ("AEP"), and the Virginia Electric and Power Company ("Virginia Power") have asked that they be permitted to jointly file in electronic format, a portion of the filings required under 20 VAC 5-320-100 and

20 VAC 5-320-110. According to the Staff, AEP and Virginia Power have represented that a substantial portion of their filing consists of a voluminous compendium of documents filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"). These FERC filings relate to the companies' membership in a proposed regional transmission organization ("RTO") known as the Alliance.

Rule 5:12 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure requires, in pertinent part, that applications (such as these required by the RTE regulations) be filed in original with fifteen (15) copies unless otherwise specified by the Commission. We note that the Commission's Chief Hearing Examiner did so otherwise specify in a recent ruling in which she permitted certain cost studies to be filed in a combination of original paper version, additional paper copies, and copies in electronic format compatible with Microsoft Office 97 on separate compact disks.¹ That decision sought to strike a balance among several considerations: Commission utilization, public accessibility, and convenience to parties before the Commission.

The companies have requested that they be permitted to file the pertinent Alliance documents as follows: (i) two paper originals (one in each of the dockets established for the companies, as provided above), and (ii) such additional electronic copies as the Commission may require, all in PDF format and supplied on compact disk.

Upon consideration, we find that due to the large volume of documents Virginia Power and AEP represent will be associated with their FERC filings concerning the Alliance RTO, good cause has been shown to grant the companies the relief they seek, in part.

¹ Commonwealth of Virginia, ex. rel., State Corporation Commission, Ex parte, In re: Investigation of the appropriate level of intrastate access service prices, Case No. PUC000003, Hearing Examiner's Ruling dated May 10, 2000.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) On or before October 16, 2000, AEP and Virginia Power shall each file with the Commission in the individual dockets established herein for their RTE filings an original paper version of documents (i) associated with the companies' Alliance filings at FERC, and (ii) pertinent to each company's filing obligations under 20 VAC 5-320-100 and 20 VAC 5-320-110. The documents shall be appropriately indexed to corresponding provisions in such regulations.

(2) On or before October 16, 2000, AEP and Virginia Power shall each file with the Commission in the individual dockets established herein for their RTE filings one (1) additional paper copy of the documents filed pursuant to ordering paragraph (1) herein.

(3) On or before October 16, 2000, AEP and Virginia Power shall each file with the Commission in the individual dockets established herein for their RTE filings fifteen (15) copies of the documents filed pursuant to ordering paragraph (1) herein in PDF format, or in electronic format compatible with Microsoft Office 97 on separate compact disks or sets thereof, clearly labeled as to content; provided, however, that such companies shall provide additional paper copies if so requested by the Staff or so directed by this Commission.

(4) Except as provided in ordering paragraphs (1) through (3) herein, all other filings, including any related documentation, required to be made by each of the companies under the provisions of 20 VAC 5-320-100 and 20 VAC 5-320-110 shall be filed in the quantities and medium specified in Rule 5:12 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure and Practice.